

Order **Phasmida** Leach, 1815^{1 2} (3 suborders)
 Suborder **Agathemerodea** Zompro, 2004 (1 family)
 Family **Agathemeridae** Bradler, 2003 (1 genus, 8 species)
 Suborder **Timematodea** Kevan, 1982 (1 family)
 Family **Timematidae** Caudell, 1903 (1 genus, 21 species)
 Suborder **Verophasmatoidea** Zompro, 2004 (2 infraorders)
 Infraorder **Anareolatae** (2 families)
 Family **Diapheromeridae** Kirby, 1904 (138 genera, 1210 species)
 Family **Phasmatidae** Gray, 1835 (160 genera, 991 species)
 Infraorder **Areolatae** (4 superfamilies)
 Superfamily **Aschiphasmatoidea** Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1893 (3 families)
 Family **Aschiphasmatidae** Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1893 (15 genera, 96 species)
 Family **Damasippoididae** Zompro, 2004 (2 genera, 6 species)
 Family **Prisopodidae** Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1893 (7 genera, 52 species)
 Superfamily **Bacilloidea** Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1893 (3 families)
 Family **Anisacanthidae** Günther, 1953 (10 genera, 31 species)
 Family **Bacillidae** Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1893 (19 genera, 54 species)
 Family **Heteropterygidae** Kirby, 1896 (27 genera, 103 species)
 Superfamily **Phyllioidea** Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1893 (1 family)
 Family **Phylliidae** Brunner von Wattenwyl, 1893 (4 genera, 51 species)
 Superfamily **Pseudophasmatoidea** Rehn, J.A.G., 1904 (2 families)
 Family **Heteronemiidae** Rehn, J.A.G., 1904 (12 genera, 79 species)
 Family **Pseudophasmatidae** Rehn, J.A.G., 1904 (58 genera, 327 species)

References³

- Bradler, S. (2009) *Die Phylogenie der Stab- und Gespentschrecken (Insecta: Phasmatodea). Vol 2.1 Species, Phylogeny and Evolution*. Universitätsverlag Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany.
- Otte, D. & Brock, P. (2005) *Phasmida Species File. Catalog of Stick and Leaf Insects of the world*. The Insect Diversity Association at the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia
- Zompro, O. (2004) *Revision of the genera of the Areolatae, including the status of Timema and Agathemera (Insecta, Phasmatodea)*. Goecke & Evers, Keltern-Weiler, Germany.

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1. The title of this contribution should be cited as "Order Phasmida Leach, 1815. *In*: Zhang, Z.-Q. (Ed.) Animal biodiversity: An outline of higher-level classification and survey of taxonomic richness". the order Phasmida currently includes 13 families, 454 genera and 3029 species. The few described fossil phasmids (if belonging to the order) are excluded from the information above and from the Phasmida Species File. Based on: Brock, P.D. Phasmida Species File Online. Version 2.1/4.0. [retrieval date 22 April 2011]. <http://Phasmida.SpeciesFile.org> [a regularly updated on-line catalogue, used for these statistics]
2. Phasmida or Phasmatodea? The Code of the International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature has no rules for the construction of names of Orders, only for the names of family-groups, and genus- and species-level names. This may result in several names being in use for the same order, the name selected by any author being largely a matter of choice and therefore subject to some discussion or even prolonged argument. The names currently in use for the order of stick and leaf insects, or walking sticks, include Phasmida, Phasmatodea, Phasmatoptera and Cheleutoptera. Phasmida is the oldest and simplest name, first used by Leach in 1815 in 'Brewster's Edinburgh Encyclopaedia' volume 9, p.119, and widely used in major entomological textbooks, dictionaries and many scientific papers and books on phasmids. As there is no compulsion to select the 'grammatically correct' name [which some argue is Phasmatodea Jacobson & Bianchi, 1902], selection of a long established (and simple) name is reasonable, although the probability of persuading all colleagues to agree on the use of Phasmida is unlikely.
3. Recent references include Zompro (2004), Otte & Brock (2005), Bradler (2009); comprehensive books and catalogues of the phasmid fauna of various countries have been published in recent years, details available from PSF under Phasmida and synonyms.